

III Appendix III Public Survey

III.1 Public Mail Survey Public Letter #1

mailed on May 17, 2005



Northwest Management, Inc.
Natural Resources Management

233 E. Palouse River Drive
PO Box 9748
Moscow, ID 83843
Tel: 208-883-4488
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www.Consulting-Foresters.com

Providing a Balanced Approach to Natural Resource Management

Idaho County All Hazards Mitigation Plan Survey

May 17, 2005

Name
Address
City, State Zip

Dear Idaho County Resident:

Thank you for taking fifteen minutes of your time to read and respond to this short inquiry. We are working with the Idaho County Commissioners' Office and a host of fire protection and disaster relief organizations in Idaho County to develop a county-wide **Wildland Fire Mitigation Plan**. As an individual who lives in Idaho County, you know that the urban-rural interface is at very high risk to casualty loss due to wildland fires.

This year we are taking a proactive role in reducing fire starts and mitigating wildland fire-caused casualty loss in your area. We are inviting you to take a proactive role as well.

We are developing improved predictive models of where fires are likely to ignite, locating and identifying high risk landscape characteristics, advancing improved land management practices to reduce fire rate-of-spread on forestlands and rangelands, and working with rural landowners to create defensible zones around homes and buildings so that fires are controlled BEFORE they take a landowner's valuable possessions. It is the last of these goals that we need your help with.

We would like you to complete the attached survey about your home's defensible space in the case of Wildland fire. Your responses will be kept completely confidential and released only in aggregated form. This questionnaire will allow us to identify key criteria that may place your home and the homes of your neighbors at the greatest risk. We will use this information to develop mitigation activities that may lead to saving your home and your community.

We have sent this letter and survey to only a randomly selected number of people living in Idaho County. Because of this, your response is very important to our efforts. Please take a few minutes to complete the enclosed survey and return it to us in the self-addressed envelope.

We would like to thank you for your assistance on this project with a small token of appreciation. During the development of this project, we are completing some very advanced mapping of Idaho County. We have created detailed maps showing roads, rivers, elevation, fire prone landscapes, potential fire ignition locations, plant cover characteristics, and even orthophoto coverage (black and white images taken from high altitude) with features over them. These maps are printed at 8.5" x 11" sizes. If you give us a legal land description, we will make a high resolution map of this property and send it to you. The map might be the locale of your home, your property, or even your favorite recreation spot. When you complete your survey, please mark which map coverage you would like, and we will custom color print this map for you and send it at no charge. It is our way of thanking you for your input to this very important project.

Thank you for your assistance. If you have any questions about this project or this survey please contact your County Commissioners at 208-983-2751 or me at the Northwest Management, Inc. office in Moscow, Idaho at 208-883-4488.

Sincerely,



William E. Schlosser, Ph.D.
Project Manager, Idaho County Wildland Fire Mitigation Plan
Northwest Management, Inc.

Idaho County Wildland Fire Mitigation Plan Public Survey

1. Do you have a home in Idaho County?
 - ☐ Yes
 - ☐ No
2. Is this your primary residence?
 - ☐ Yes
 - ☐ No
3. Which community do you live closest to?

4. Does your area have 911 emergency telephone service?
 - ☐ Yes
 - ☐ No
5. Is your address clearly visible from the nearest public road (County/State/USFS)?
 - ☐ Yes
 - ☐ No
6. Is your home located in a rural/city fire district (taxing district)?
 - ☐ Yes
 - ☐ No
7. Is your home located in a subscription district (non-taxing, voluntary payment)?
 - ☐ Yes
 - ☐ No

If yes, do you subscribe?

 - ☐ Yes
 - ☐ No
8. What type of roof does your home have (please mark one):
 - ☐ Composite
 - ☐ Wooden shake (shingles)
 - ☐ Ceramic tiles
 - ☐ Aluminum, tin, or other metal
 - ☐ Other (please indicate: _____)
9. How many trees are within 250 feet of your home?
 - ☐ None
 - ☐ Less than 10
 - ☐ Between 10 and 25
 - ☐ More than 25
10. How many trees are within 75 feet of your home?
 - ☐ None
 - ☐ Less than 10
 - ☐ Between 10 and 25
 - ☐ More than 25

11. Do you have a lawn surrounding your home?
- ☐ No
 - ☐ Yes, if yes is it kept green and trimmed all summer?
 - ☐ No
 - ☐ Yes
12. How long is your driveway, from the main road to your home parking area? Please indicate distance units in feet or miles.
- _____ ☐ Feet
☐ Miles
13. If your driveway is over 1/4 mile long, does it have turnouts that would allow two trucks to pass each other?
- ☐ Yes
 - ☐ No
14. Can a 25 ft long vehicle easily turn around (circle turn or three point turn) at the end of your driveway?
- ☐ Yes
 - ☐ No
15. How wide is the running surface of your driveway, in feet? _____ ft.
16. What type of surfacing does your driveway have?
- ☐ Dirt
 - ☐ Gravel/rock
 - ☐ Paved
17. Does your driveway cross a stream, river, or irrigation canal?
- ☐ Yes
 - ☐ No
18. If the primary access to your home were cut off because of a wildfire, would you have an alternative route to escape through?
- ☐ Yes
 - ☐ No
19. Please indicate which of the following items you have available at or near your home that could be used in fighting a wildland fire that threatens your home (mark all that apply)
- ☐ Hand tools (shovel, pulaski, etc.)
 - ☐ Portable water tank
 - ☐ Stationary water tank
 - ☐ Pond, lake, or stream water supply close
 - ☐ Water pump and fire hose
 - ☐ Equipment suitable for creating fire breaks (bulldozer, cat, skidder, etc.)
20. Please indicate any emergency services training anyone in your household has received.

Type of Training	No	Yes	Within 5 years	More than 5 years
Wildland Fire Fighting	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
City or Rural Fire Fighting	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
EMT	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Basic First Aid	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Search and Rescue	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Circle the ratings in each category that best describes the area close to your home.

Rating

Calculating Your Risk

Extreme Risk = 26 + points
High Risk = 16–25 points
Moderate Risk = 6–15 points
Low Risk = 6 or less points

22. In the last 7 years have you had your property professionally assessed for wildfire danger?
- ☐ Yes
☐ No
23. Do you conduct a periodic fuels reduction program near your home site such as grass or brush burning?
- ☐ Yes
☐ No
24. Do livestock (cattle, horses, sheep) graze the grasses and forbs around your home?
- ☐ Yes
☐ No
25. If offered in your area, would members of your household attend a free, or low-cost, one-day training seminar designed to teach homeowners in the rural–urban interface how to improve the defensible space surrounding your home and adjacent outbuildings?
- ☐ Yes
☐ No
26. How do you feel Wildfire Mitigation projects should be **funded** in the areas surrounding homes, communities, and infrastructure such as power lines and major roads?

	Mark the box that best applies to your preference		
	100% Public Funding	Cost-Share (Public & Private)	Privately Funded (Owner or Company)
Home Defensibility Projects	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Community Defensibility Projects	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Infrastructure Projects Roads, Bridges, Power Lines, Etc.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Thank you very much for completing this survey and sending it back to us. This information will be combined with other data to assess the greatest threats to defending homes and adjacent buildings in the rural–urban interface where wildland fires are common.

Please place the completed survey and the Map Request Form in the self-addressed envelope and place it in the mail for return to us. Thank you!

Order Your Idaho County Area Map

FREE

As a token of appreciation for completing and returning this survey, we would like to send you a detailed map of your favorite area. Complete this form and return it to us with your survey and we will custom print a color map of your property and send it to you. Maps are produced by NMI during the winter months of December, January and February. Expect your maps to arrive in the mail during this time.

What is the legal land description of the property you want mapped (must be in Idaho County).

_____ T _____ N, R _____ E.
or describe the area _____

About how many acres is the parcel you want mapped? _____ acres
What would you like printed as the title of the map? (Five or less words, please print)

Please select which coverage (only one per map) you would like as the primary theme:

- ☐ Land Ownership Categories (over shaded relief map)
- ☐ Ortho photo (limited availability)

All maps include:

- Roads
- Streams & rivers
- Community locations
- Building locations (where available)
- Township, Range, and Sections (property lines are not included)
- Hillshade relief placed in the background to provide representation of slope and elevation.

Please verify your name and full address here so we can send your map to you:

Our records indicate that your address is:	If this is incorrect please correct it here:
Name	_____
Address	_____
City, State Zip	_____

III.2 Public Mail Survey Public Letter #2

Sent as a postcard on May 26, 2005

May 26, 2005

Dear Idaho County Resident:

About a week ago, I mailed you a letter and a brief survey concerning the wildfire situation in your community. That survey is instrumental to the success of the Wildland Fire Mitigation Plan we are developing in conjunction with the Idaho County Commissioners Office. We have received responses from many families in the area and we wish to extend our thanks and appreciation to everyone who has participated. However, we still have not received completed surveys from many homes in the region. If you have not returned the completed survey to us yet, please take a few minutes to complete the survey and return it in the self-addressed envelope provided with the letter.

Your responses are very important to this effort which will recommend the location and type of fire mitigation projects to be implemented in the area of your home. If you have any questions about this project or this survey please contact your County Commissioners at 208-983-2751 or me at the Northwest Management, Inc. office in Moscow, Idaho at 208-883-4488.

Thank you for your time and your assistance with this project!



William E. Schlosser, Ph.D.

Northwest Management, Inc. Natural Resource Management
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III.3 Public Mail Survey Public Letter #3

Sent on June 3, 2005 and included a replacement survey (not included here).



Northwest Management, Inc.
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Providing a Balanced Approach to Natural Resource Management

Idaho County All Hazards Mitigation Plan Survey

June 3, 2005

Name

Address

City, State Zip

Dear Idaho County Resident:

Thank you for taking fifteen minutes of your time to read and respond to this short inquiry. About two weeks ago, I sent you a letter and package of materials much like this one. In it, I asked if you would please assist our efforts by reading, filling out, and returning a survey concerning a **Wildland Fire Mitigation Plan** we are preparing for Idaho County in cooperation with the Idaho County Commissioner's Office and a host of fire protection disaster relief organizations in Idaho County. While we have received excellent responses from many residents of the area, we have not received them from everyone. **If you have completed and returned your survey, please accept our sincere thanks!** If you have not returned the completed survey, please do so as soon as possible.

As an individual who lives in Idaho County, you know that the urban-rural interface is at very high risk to casualty loss due to wildland fires. This year, however, we are taking a proactive role in reducing fire starts and mitigating wildland fire-caused casualty loss in your area. We are inviting you to take a proactive role as well.

We are developing improved predictive models of where fires are likely to ignite, locating and identifying high risk landscape characteristics, advancing improved land management practices to reduce fire rate-of-spread on forestlands and rangelands, and working with rural landowners to create defensible zones around homes and buildings so that fires are controlled BEFORE they take a landowner's valuable possessions. It is the last of these goals that we need your help with.

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Thank you for your assistance. If you have any questions about this project or this survey please contact your County Commissioners at 208-983-2751 or me at the Northwest Management, Inc. office in Moscow, Idaho at 208-883-4488.

Sincerely,



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